

REMARKS

Claims 24–27 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 24 is amended and claims 1–23 are canceled. Support for the amendments to claim 24 may be found, for example, in the specification at paragraph [0083] and Table 1. No new matter is added.

In view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

I. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Office Action rejects claims 24–27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0193286 to Ottermann et al. ("Ottermann") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,501,014 to Kubota et al. ("Kubota"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Without conceding the propriety of the rejections, independent claim 24 has been amended to more clearly recite various novel features of the claimed invention, with particular attention to the Examiner's comments. Specifically, independent claim 24 has been amended to clarify that the ultraviolet absorbing layer comprises "a semiconductor material having photocatalyst activity, wherein the semiconductor is selected from the group consisting of titanium oxide, strontium titanate, tin oxide, niobium oxide, indium oxide, and gallium oxide."

One of the criteria that must be met to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness is that the applied references, either separately or combined, must teach or suggest all of the claimed features. *In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991).

The Office Action concedes that Ottermann does not disclose an ultraviolet absorbing layer over the second electrode, but asserts that Kubota explicitly discloses a protective coating that may consist of multiple layers, one of which includes a UV-absorbing layer. Although Kubota mentions zinc oxide (ZnO) as a UV-absorbing material, Kubota makes no

mention of the desirability of using a semiconductor material having photocatalyst activity, or any of the specific materials required by claim 24. Therefore Otterman and Kubota, either separately or combined, fail to teach or suggest all of the features of claim 24.

Claim 24 would not have been rendered obvious by Otterman and Kubota. Claims 25–27 depend from claim 24 and, thus, also would not have been rendered obvious by Otterman and Kubota. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 24–27 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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